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# Kings Mountain Herald 50¢

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ELECTION TUESDAY

## Voters hit the polls Tuesday

By ELIZABETH STEWART  
Staff Writer

Kings Mountain voters will go to the polls Tuesday to vote for or against the sale of mixed beverages in hotels, restaurants, private clubs, community theatres and convention centers.

Polls open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m. at two Kings Mountain locations - the YMCA at 211 Cleveland Avenue for those voters who live north of King Street and Mauney Memorial Library at 100 S. Piedmont Avenue for those voters who live south of King Street.

Saturday, May 2 at 1 p.m. is the deadline for one stop absentee voting which opens at 8 a.m. at the Cleveland County Board of Elections, 215 Patton Drive, Shelby.

Monday, May 4, 5 p.m. is the deadline to return your ballot to the Board of Elections if you have requested and received one in the mail.

Although the election is both controversial and an emotional issue, outward activity by both proponents and opponents is quiet.

Some signs have been posted in the area and obviously volunteers are working hard on both sides of the "dry" and "wet" issue, garnering a "get out the vote" campaign by

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FIRES IGNITE I-85



EMILY WEAVER/HERALD

Firefighters work to contain several small fires along I-85 Saturday.

## Small fires congest I-85

Firemen: dragging chain may have caused sparks

By EMILY WEAVER  
Editor

Traffic came to a crawl on I-85 southbound past exit 8 on Saturday afternoon as small wildfires spread on each side of the interstate.

The flames and a non-fatal motor

vehicle accident called the quick attention of Kings Mountain police and firefighters to the area a little past noon.

Firefighters suspect that a dragging chain may have sparked the fires. As the metal chain of a truck,

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SWINE FLU BBQ?

## Swine flu not on menu

Restaurant's sales fall short as cases make headlines

By EMILY WEAVER  
Editor

Will the swine flu be the next pandemic? Whether it is or not, one thing is for sure it cannot be transmitted through properly cooked pork.

This is the message that Roger Goins, owner of Roger's BBQ in Kings Mountain, hopes to get out to the public. He has noticed a slow down in business since reports of the swine flu started claiming national and local headlines.

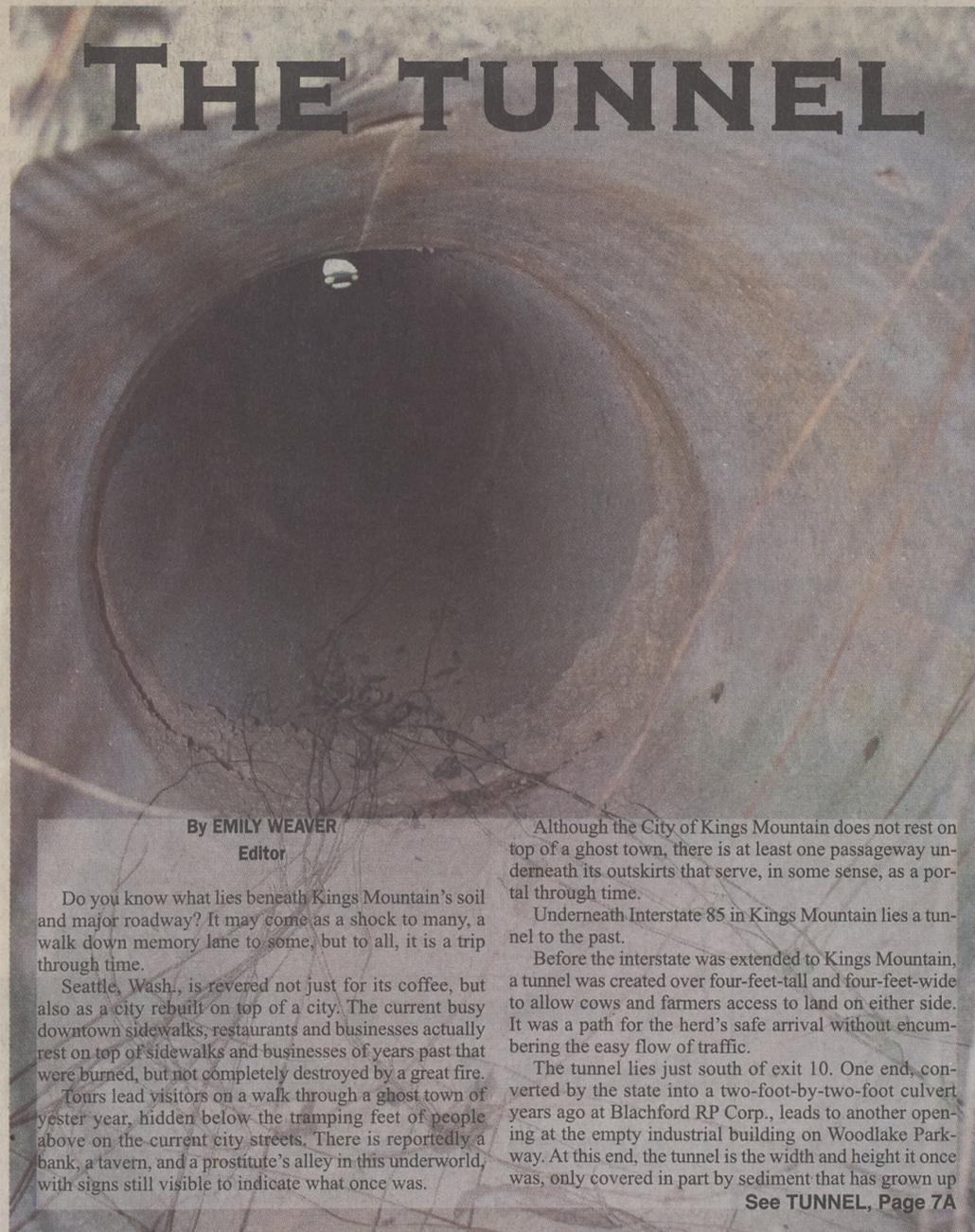
"When we fall off (in sales) as drastically as we did today, one can't help but wonder (if the swine flu cases could be a factor)," he said on Monday.

But, according to the Centers for Disease Control, "Swine influenza viruses are not transmitted by food.

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## WHAT LIES BENEATH

# THE TUNNEL



By EMILY WEAVER  
Editor

Do you know what lies beneath Kings Mountain's soil and major roadway? It may come as a shock to many, a walk down memory lane to some, but to all, it is a trip through time.

Seattle, Wash., is revered not just for its coffee, but also as a city rebuilt on top of a city. The current busy downtown sidewalks, restaurants and businesses actually rest on top of sidewalks and businesses of years past that were burned, but not completely destroyed by a great fire.

Tours lead visitors on a walk through a ghost town of yester year, hidden below the tramping feet of people above on the current city streets. There is reportedly a bank, a tavern, and a prostitute's alley in this underworld, with signs still visible to indicate what once was.

Although the City of Kings Mountain does not rest on top of a ghost town, there is at least one passageway underneath its outskirts that serve, in some sense, as a portal through time.

Underneath Interstate 85 in Kings Mountain lies a tunnel to the past.

Before the interstate was extended to Kings Mountain, a tunnel was created over four-foot-tall and four-foot-wide to allow cows and farmers access to land on either side. It was a path for the herd's safe arrival without encumbering the easy flow of traffic.

The tunnel lies just south of exit 10. One end, converted by the state into a two-foot-by-two-foot culvert years ago at Blachford RP Corp., leads to another opening at the empty industrial building on Woodlake Parkway. At this end, the tunnel is the width and height it once was, only covered in part by sediment that has grown up

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## New housing construction begins in city

By ELIZABETH STEWART  
Staff Writer

City crews are laying water and sewer lines this week at the Ruppe Street site of a proposed new \$4 million housing development across from Mountain Rest cemetery.

Pendergraph Development Company Kings Falls LLC is developing the property where 84 apartment units will be constructed, 36 for citizens 55 and older and based on income thresholds.

"These will be very nice apartments and the developers are shooting for a 14-15 month completion date," said Mayor Rick Murphrey. The mayor said the city received a \$100,000 Community Development Block grant to pay for water and sidewalks to serve the facility.

Cherokee Street Apartments, a \$1 million project by Reinvesters In Communities Construction Company, has obtained city permits and plans are shaping for construction and completion of 12 units in 8-9 months.

The mayor said these new apartments will serve disabled adults who want to live independently but close to relatives, adding "this is housing that we have needed in this area."

With the sluggish economy, the ups wing in housing is expected to add more jobs to the area, the mayor said.

## Business After Hours Thursday at J. Olivers

Cleveland County Chamber of Commerce and the Kings Mountain Branch will hold Business After Hours Thursday, April 30, at 5:30 p.m. at J Oliver's on S. Battleground Avenue.

Prior to the reception, John Harris and his staff of J Oliver's will cut the ribbon at 5:15 p.m. officially marking the opening of the new business.

At 4 p.m., the Chamber and city elected officials will cut the ribbon at Eagle's Gate, the new development being constructed by Tommy Hall near Food Lion on Shelby Road.

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